

MEMORIAL

OF

SUNDRY INHABITANTS OF OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA,

In favor of acknowledging the Independence of Texas.

JUNE 24, 1836.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The undersigned inhabitants of Opelousas, a frontier town of Louisiana, in the vicinity of Texas, have been deeply interested in the progress of events in that country. They have seen a brave people struggling against the measures of a military despot, who, after having overthrown the liberties of his own country, has sought, at the head of a large army, consisting of the choice troops of the Mexican empire, to violate the rights and crush the hopes of the Texians. Most of the latter are our countrymen, endeared to us by all the ties of relationship, and for that reason we feel unusual interest in their success. But were it otherwise—were they different from us in origin, in language, in religion—we should be unable to suppress our natural sympathies in behalf of a brave people, struggling for civil and religious liberty, or to withhold an expression of our gratification at recent events. The Texians have at length triumphed over the veteran armies of Mexico, and taken prisoner the individual who is nominally and absolutely the head of that Government. The opportunity is now offered to the United States of acting upon their uniform and settled policy of recognising *existing* Governments in every country. The independence of Texas is for the present, at least, secure. She has a regularly-organized and administered Government, and her soil is no longer polluted by the tread of a hostile army. Our commercial relations with her are already extensive, and becoming daily more important. The wealth of our citizens, from one end of the Union to the other, is invested in her soil; and considerations of policy, no less than the higher dictates of a liberal and enlarged philanthropy, seem to us to require that the United States should step forward, not to give them physical aid, but, by signifying our approval of the position they have taken, add fresh vigor to their hearts, and give them a respectability in the eyes of the world. With these views of the subject we earnestly but respectfully solicit of Congress an early recognition of the independence of Texas.

George King,
Guy H. Bell,
George R. King,
Caleb L. Swayze,
George Hill,
Charles Porter,
Thomas A. Cooke,
Benjamin W. Harris,
Emile J. Bignon,
W. W. Taylor,
A. Ludeveze,
D. J. Redmond,
J. L. Benson,
Donat Fux,
Miramomd,
A. Follam,
Richard Hardie,
W. Noere,
Patrick H. Glaze,
Joseph D. Thompson,
John J. Tayler,
W. B. Pearce,
Winder Crouch,
M. D. Boatwright,
William H. Parrott,
S. W. Wikoff,
P. Wartelle,
Christopher Steel,
E. Littell,
Joseph M. Caniere,
John Dinsmore,
S. Tonor,
John Wilslove,
B. De Cailon,
A. B. Cheney, of Rapide
R. Duval,
Philo F. Garfield,
George Burguenet,
Seth Terres,

A. H. Andrus,
Robert Taylor,
Lewis Andrus,
Caleb Green, jr.
I. M. Jewell,
Wilson C. Robert,
Robert E. Smith,
U. Littell,
George W. Addison,
Jonathan Harris,
W. B. Lewis,
A. Lattropes,
William Briandt,
John Simons,
C. Daniel,
J. M. Brewe,
J. Desenart,
Ephraim Davis,
F. Seetts,
C. Fulty,
T. Slade,
A. Dejean,
N. Offutt,
B. Chacheu,
E. H. Martin,
T. Dejean,
Andrew Noatt,
Gilbert Sloane,
R. Benegurel,
W. Fontainne,
John Rogers,
R. McCarty,
John Ley,
E. Chaix,
T. B. Dejean, jr.
James B. Sullivan,
B. B. Simmes,
H. Rogers.